

lands on the Ka'u Coast of the island of Hawaii between Kapao'o Point and Kahuku Point as a unit of the National Park System.

The National Park Service has issued a reconnaissance report that made a preliminary assessment of whether the Ka'u Coast would meet the National Park Service's demanding criteria as a resource of national significance.

The reconnaissance survey concluded that "based upon the significance of the resources in the study area, and the current integrity and intact condition of these resources, a preliminary finding of national significance and suitability can be concluded." The report goes on to recommend that Congress proceed with a full resource study of the area.

Although under significant development pressure, the coastline of Ka'u is still largely unspoiled. The study area contains significant natural, geological, and archeological features. The northern part of the study area is adjacent to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and contains a number of noteworthy geological features, including an ancient lava tube known as the Great Crack, which the National Park Service has expressed interest in acquiring in the past.

The study area includes both black and green sand beaches as well as a significant number of endangered and threatened species, most notably the endangered hawksbill turtle (at least half of the Hawaiian population of this rare sea turtle nests within the study area), the threatened green sea turtle, the highly endangered Hawaiian monk seal, the endangered Hawaiian hawk, native bees, the endangered and very rare Hawaiian orange-black damselfly (the largest population in the state), and a number of native endemic birds. Humpback whales and spinner dolphins also frequent the area. The Ka'u Coast also boasts some of the best remaining examples of native coastal vegetation in Hawaii.

The archeological resources related to ancient Hawaiian settlements within the study area are also very impressive. These include dwelling complexes, heiau (religious shrines), walls, fishing and canoe houses or sheds, burial sites, petroglyphs, water and salt collection sites, caves, and trails. The Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail runs through the study area.

The Ka'u Coast is a truly remarkable area: its combination of natural, archeological, cultural, and recreational resources, as well as its spectacular viewpoints, are an important part of Hawaii's and our nation's natural and cultural heritage. I believe a full feasibility study, which was recommended in the reconnaissance survey, will confirm that the area meets the National Park Service's high standards as an area of national significance.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF GULF BREEZE POLICE CHIEF PETER PAULDING

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Peter Paulding, Chief

of Police of the City of Gulf Breeze, upon his retirement after forty years of honorable and decorated law enforcement service. For the past ten years, Police Chief Paulding has admirably served the citizens and community of the City of Gulf Breeze, Florida.

Our community owes a large debt of gratitude to Police Chief Paulding for his many accomplishments. During his tenure as Chief of Police, the City of Gulf Breeze maintained one of the lowest crime rates in the State of Florida, helping to make it one of the top rated communities in the country. Under Chief Paulding's leadership, the Gulf Breeze Police Department implemented many inventive and highly successful initiatives. Chief Paulding was responsible for implementing the Volunteers in Policing, VIP, program, creating the Traffic Safety Task Force, and also implementing the first red light traffic enforcement system in the state of Florida, a system that has now been endorsed by the Florida State Legislature.

During Chief Paulding's ten-year tenure, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was awarded the Rocky Pomerance Excellence in Policing Award eight times by the Florida Police Chiefs Association. Also recognizing the Department's community policing initiatives, the Department received the International Association of Chiefs of Police Community Policing Award in 2003 and 2010.

Under Chief Paulding's leadership, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was the first law enforcement agency in the Northwest Florida Panhandle to receive accreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. In 2011, the Gulf Breeze Police Department was a finalist for the Motorola Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement for implementing a coast-watch program as a community policing response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster. In 2008, as its Project Leader, Chief Paulding was responsible for the Gulf Breeze Police Department's recognition as a semi-finalist for the Webber Seavey Award for its Project Homecoming, and in 2006 the Gulf Breeze Police Department was yet again recognized as a semi-finalist for the Webber Seavey Award for its Volunteers on Patrol program.

In addition to his role as Chief of Police, Paulding served his community in numerous roles, including President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association in 2010–2011. He will continue to serve the City of Gulf Breeze by overseeing the automated red light traffic enforcement program that he initiated.

It is my honor to recognize Police Chief Peter Paulding upon his retirement as Chief of Police of the City of Gulf Breeze after a distinguished forty-year law enforcement career. I take this opportunity to commend Chief Paulding for making the Gulf Breeze community a safer and more enjoyable place to live, and I thank him for his valuable years of public service. My wife Vicki and I wish Chief Paulding, his wife Ruth, and their children and grandchildren all the best.

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize February as American Heart Month. This month is dedicated to raising awareness about heart disease and spreading knowledge in order to save lives. Heart disease is the gravest health risk for women in the United States and will take the lives of 420,000 women this year. During this month, I encourage all women to strive to be more proactive about our health and well-being.

Mr. Speaker, heart disease is a harsh reality in our nation and is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. Because information is the most powerful tool against fighting heart disease, let us advance women's heart health through advocacy and education. It is a fact that the chance of developing heart disease can be dramatically reduced by taking steps to prevent and control factors that put people at greater risk. Many, but not all, cases of heart diseases can be prevented. A healthy diet and lifestyle are the best weapons women have to fight heart disease. Women should be aware of risk factors that can lead to heart disease, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use, and family history. By working together, we can help women live stronger and longer lives.

While heart disease affects women of every race and circumstance, African American women have a higher risk for cardiovascular disease than Caucasian women and are less aware of their cardiovascular risk factors. I urge all women in the United States to be more proactive about their heart health. It is never too early to take action to improve our heart health, and the Obama Administration is committed to helping Americans fight chronic illness such as cardiovascular disease.

Under the Affordable Care Act, all new individual and group health plans must now provide recommended preventative care and services without a copayment, coinsurance or deductible. These potentially lifesaving screenings include blood pressure, cholesterol tests as well as counseling on losing weight and eating well.

In addition, the Affordable Care Act has administered over \$100 million in funding for up to 75 Community Transformation Grants, which are aimed at helping communities implement projects proven to reduce chronic diseases, such as heart disease. These grants will help improve health, reduce health disparities, and lower health care costs.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as American Heart Month. This month let us rededicate ourselves to helping our sisters, mothers, daughters, friends and communities become more aware of the risks and symptoms of heart disease. February 3, 2012 is National Wear Red Day and I urge my friends, family and colleagues to wear red in support for the more than 42 million women are living with or are at risk for heart disease. Together, we can overcome this disease.